

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. National Stage Application of : Cus

Customer Number: 31824

Kiminobu HIRATA, et al.

Confirmation Number: 4387

U.S. Application No.: 10/576,720

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

International Application No.:

PCT/JP2004/013307

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

International Filing Date: October 22, 2006

For: ENGI

ENGINE CONTROL APPARATUS:

AND ENGINE OPERATING

**METHOD** 

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the applications listed below.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial Nos. 10/572,545, filed March 17, 2006, 10/572,573, filed March 17, 2006, and 10/572,558, filed March 17, 2006, which are directed to related technical subject matter. Copies of these U.S. patent applications are not being provided. The identification of these U.S. Patent Applications are not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to this application now or upon issuance of the present

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application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502203 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

CDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Mark J. Itri

Registration No. 36,171

18191 Von Karman Ave., Suite 500 Please recognize our Customer No. 31824 as our correspondence address.

Phone: 949.851.0633 MJI:gmb

Facsimile: 949.851.9348

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